

# Good Neighbor Environmental Board ROUND-UP

*Board and environmental news along the U.S.-Mexico border*

Volume 3, Number 8  
January 2003



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## Good Neighbor Board News

*from the Good Neighbor Environmental Board  
January 2003 Round-Up*

### Calendar of 2003 Good Neighbor Environmental Board Meetings

- February 18-19 Washington, DC.
- April 9-10 Deming, New Mexico
- July 30-31 Del Rio, Texas
- October 22-23 San Diego, California

### Senior Border Officials to Participate in Border Environmental Forecast 2003

Senior officials from BECC, NADBank, the U.S.-Mexico Chamber of Commerce, and the Department of Energy will be among about a dozen panelists taking part in the Board's upcoming Border Environmental Forecast 2003 session. The event will take place from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon on February 18, 2003, at the Hotel Washington in Washington, D.C. The public is encouraged to attend. Immediately following the seminar, the Board will hold a public comment session.

The Border Forecast 2003 session is one of three Board activities scheduled for February 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. During the afternoon of February 18<sup>th</sup>, the Board will hold its annual Strategic Planning Session. The following morning, February 19<sup>th</sup>, the Board will hold a routine business meeting. Both of these activities also are open to the public.

### Three Federal Board Members Designate Alternates

Three federal agency representatives on the Board have designated official Alternates to represent them when they are unable to attend meetings. Board member Dick Walling from DHHS has designated Thomas Mampilly; IBWC U.S. Commissioner Carlos Ramirez has designated Jim Stefanov; and USDA member Rosendo Trevino has designated Manuel Ayala. We welcome the new Alternates, and appreciate the ongoing active involvement of the federal agency component of the Board.

### Memorial Scholarship Established in Memory of Former Member Linda Smith

We were touched to learn that the Linda B. Smith Memorial Scholarship has been established in memory and honor of former Board member Linda Smith, who died unexpectedly in 2001. Linda's expertise and enthusiastic involvement as a Board member greatly enriched its work; after learning of her death, the Board decided to dedicate its last report, the Fifth Report to the President and Congress, to Linda. Current Board member Bill Fry serves on the Memorial Scholarship's Board of Trustees.

## Board Issues Comment Letter on Border 2012 Framework

In response to a request from Border 2012 officials for input on its framework document, the Board issued the following comment letter on January 3, 2003:

Jerry Clifford, Deputy Administrator, EPA Office of International Affairs, Ronald Reagan Building, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Mr. Clifford,

As Chair of the Good Neighbor Environmental Board, I am writing to thank you for your attentiveness to the Good Neighbor Environmental Board's review of Border XXI in our 2000 annual report, particularly our recommendations on how the next border program should be designed. After reviewing the framework document for Border 2012, we wish especially to commend the following components:

- a more focused goal;
- increased public and tribal participation;
- increased regional participation;
- extensive public input, witnessed through the large and diverse public meetings recently held to get feedback on the framework;
- a longer strategic planning horizon of ten years, as well as the program implementation plans;
- development of environmental indicators; and
- development of operational guidance.

We note that the success of this new approach will depend upon local capacity-building. In the Board's view, this effort must be carried out soon if the program is to ultimately be successful. EPA and SEMARNAT are in the position to implement this capacity-building in order to ensure that local, tribal, and state representatives are enabled to fully carry out their responsibilities.

The Board looks forward to playing an active consultative role as the Border 2012 Program continues to unfold.

Sincerely,  
Placido dosSantos, Chair

### **Border Region and National News**

*from the Good Neighbor Environmental Board  
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*\*\*\*Note: The items in the section below have been cut-and-pasted and compiled from other documents. Please check a primary source to ensure complete accuracy. Web sites may have to be re-entered.\*\*\**

- **Energy** - InterGen has announced a plan to install additional emissions control technology to reduce nitrogen oxide emissions at its La Rosita Energy Facility in Mexicali, Mexico. Contact: Corbie Kump, (818) 385-1900.
- **Environmental Education** - EPA is accepting applications for environmental education grants, which may be applied binationally. Deadline: February 14<sup>th</sup>. [www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants/html](http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants/html).
- **Hazardous Waste** - The U.S. EPA and the U.S. Customs Service have signed an agreement to share information on hazardous waste, chemical, and pesticides imports. [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)

- **Health - Studies** - In association with the Texas Center for Policy Studies and La Neta - Proyecto Emisiones, four non-profit groups in Mexico have completed studies on the effects of economic integration and free trade on public health and the environment in Mexico; one of the four case studies is on water use in Sonora. Contact: [cr@texascenter.org](mailto:cr@texascenter.org) . **SMBHC** - Eva M. Moya has been named the Executive Director for the U.S. Section of the United States-Mexico border Health Commission (USMBHC). [www.borderhealth.net](http://www.borderhealth.net)
- **Resource Material - Binational Cooperation** -The Udall Center has announced publication of "Beyond Transboundary Environmental Cooperation: Civil Society and Policy Outcomes on the U.S.-Mexico Border in the 1990s," by Basilio Verduzco. See [www.udallcenter.arizona.edu](http://www.udallcenter.arizona.edu) . **Health** - U.S. Public Interest Research Group (PIRG) has released "Toxic Effects and Health Effects," which identifies gaps in information on the health effects of pollution.
- **Water - Salton Sea** - The Bureau of Reclamation has released a report that says alternatives to restore or partially restore the Salton Sea could cost between \$1 - 35 billion. The Bureau repeated the federal government's position that it will not support allowing the use of Colorado River water to restore the lake.

### Events Calendar

*from the Good Neighbor Environmental  
Board January 2003 Round-Up*

*Please check a primary source for accuracy. **Events specific to border region are in bold.** Web sites may have to be re-entered. Please notify Editor of changes.\*\*\**

<b>Feb 5</b>	US IBWC Citizens public meeting in San Isidro, CA.
<b>FEB 18-19</b>	<b>GOOD NEIGHBOR ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MEETING, WASHINGTON, D.C.</b>
Feb 19-21	CEC North American Workshop on Risk Assessment and Children's Environmental Health, Oaxaca, Mexico.
<b>Feb 27-28</b>	CL International Border Environmental Law Conference, Tempe, AZ.
<b>Mar 3-5</b>	U.S.-Mexico Border Counties Coalition meeting, Washington, D.C.
Mar 4-5	International Forum on Regional Haze, hosted by Central Regional Air Planning Association, El Paso, Texas. <a href="http://www.cenrap.org/meetings">www.cenrap.org/meetings</a>
Mar 25-26	Second North American Symposium on Assessing Environmental Effects of Trade, sponsored by CEC and UNP., Mexico City.
Mar 31-Apr 2	2003 Texas Solid Waste Association of North America Annual Conference, El Paso, TX. See <a href="http://www.SWANA.org">www.SWANA.org</a> .
<b>APR 9-10</b>	<b>GOOD NEIGHBOR ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MEETING, DEMING, N.M.</b>
<b>Apr 9-12</b>	Association for Borderland Studies annual meeting, Las Vegas, NEV.
<b>Apr 28-30</b>	Border Institute V; State of the Border Environment and Health of Its Peoples: Indicators of Progress, 1990-2020, Rio Rico, AZ. <a href="http://www.scerp.org">www.scerp.org</a>
May 1-2	CEC: National Advisory Committee (NAC)/Government Advisory Committee (GAC) to the U.S. Representative meeting, Washington, D.C.
<b>May 15-17</b>	Encuentro Fronterizo Conference, Tijuana, Baja California.
<a href="http://www.encuentrofronterizo.org">www.encuentrofronterizo.org</a>	
<b>May 27-30</b>	61 <sup>st</sup> U.S.-Mexico Border Health Association Annual Mtg., San Diego, CA. See

June 24-25	<a href="http://www.usmbha.org">www.usmbha.org</a> . CEC Annual Council Session, Washington, D.C.
<b>July 30-31</b>	<b>GOOD NEIGHBOR ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MEETING, DEL RIO, TX.</b>
July 30 - Aug 1	Conference: Water Security in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century, Washington, D.C. Contact: mskerly@siu.edu
<b>Aug 6-8</b>	Border Governors Conference, Chihuahua, Chih., MX. <a href="http://www.bordergovernors.com">www.bordergovernors.com</a>
<b>OCT 22-23</b>	<b>GOOD NEIGHBOR ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MEETING, SAN DIEGO, CA</b>
Oct 26-29	2003 Texas Recycling Summit, Galveston Island, Texas. <a href="http://www.recycletx.com">www.recycletx.com</a>
Dec 3-4	CDC: 6 <sup>th</sup> National Environmental Health Conference, Atlanta, GA.

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